and their counterparts in South Africa to foster economic ties and promote cooperation between the business communities of the two countries are given in the enclosed statement.

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), which organised a business meeting with the business delegation from South Africa on 20th Nov. 1995 has intimated that detailed discussions on promotion of Indo-South African Economic Cooperation were held and some of the Indian firms are reported to have entered into collaborations with South African firms for establishing Joint Venture Projects in South Africa in areas such as computer software, cement clinkers, trading and ceramic glassware etc.

Information on the collaborations/ MOUs entered into-by private parties on a one-to-one basis is not maintained. However, approvals of Foreign Direct Investment from South Africa in 1994 & 1995 upto 30.9.1995 totalled Rs. 16.03 crores.

Statement

Detail regarding MOU signed between the different Indian chambers and their counterpart in South Africa

I. *CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN INDUSTRY (CII)*

Memorandum of Understanding with South Africa Chambers of Business (SACOB) in Dec., 1994.

II. *FEDERATION OF INDIAN EXPORT ORGANISATIONS (FIEO)*

Memorandum of Understanding with South African Foreign Trade Organisation (SAFTO) in Feb., 1993.

III. *PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY*

(a) MOU with Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry;

(b) MOU with Durban Regional Chamber of Business;

IV. *FEDERATION OF INDIAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (FICCI)*

(a) Cooperation Agreement with South African Chamber of Business (SACOB) in May, 1933;

(b) During the visit of the Deputy Foreign Minister of South Africa to India in Nov., 1994, three MOUs were signed between South African institutions and BISNET of FICCI, FICCI Quality Forum and Punjab Agro Corpn.

Advance warning of heavy rains for coal mines

1298. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Regional Meteorological Centre at Patna issued warnings of heavy rains during 26th/27th September, 1995 including the warning issued through express telegrams, to the General Manager of the Major Collieries in Bihar;

(b) if so, the precautionary action taken by the Collieries, particularly by M/s. Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL) to prevent any disaster;

(c) under what circumstances the BCCL ignored the warning and continued with the operations, including in the second shift in the underground mines of Gaslitand on 26th September, 1995; and

(d) the action taken by Government against the BCCL for such gross violation of procedure to prevent mine-disasters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), no warning of heavy rains during 26th/27th September, 1995 by Regional Meteorological Centre at Patna was received either at Headquarters or at any of the areas of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL).

(b) to (d) Do not arise.